

# PINA Permaculture Design Contest 2023

Use this form to **submit your Permaculture Design to PINA**, the Permaculture Institute of North America, **before Monday October 2, 2023**. You must answer all questions and upload images and supporting documents for your design to enter the Design Contest.

**Design Contest Rules Summary:** The Top Five (5) Finalists in each category will be selected by PINA's Panel of Judges: the ***\$1,000 New Designer Award*** (must have completed a PDC in the last 3 years, after 1/1/2020), and the ***\$5,000 Grand Prize for the best designs, regardless of design experience!***

The Top Five Finalists in each category will be invited to share about their designs in **Live Online Events, November 14th @ 7:30PM ET for New Designers and November 15th @ 7:30PM ET for the Grand Prize**.

PINA members will vote to select the winners in each category. **Voting closes November 21st** and the **Winners will be announced November 27th**. All Finalists will receive award packages from our sponsors. Please read the complete [Design Contest Rules, Terms and Conditions](#).

As is the case with all good Permaculture Designs, PINA is seeking design submissions that creatively use and respond to local conditions to improve quality of life for you, your community, and your ecosystem.

Consider how your design can best impact local communities of need, grow local economies, address "invisible structures," and how your design can create more engagement, more Permaculture education, more Earth Care, People Care, and Future Care in your region.

**Note:** *Every design doesn't need to solve all of today's issues, but more integrated designs are encouraged.*

**Project Lead:** First and Last Name (must be a current PINA member & a PDC grad) \*

Kristyn Tinney

**PDC Info:** Date and location where you completed your first PDC, and name of primary instructor(s) \*

December 1 2020, Ontario, Canada - Starhawk & Charles Williams of Earth Activist Training

**Email:** \*

**Phone :** \*

**Title of Design Project:** \*

Folklore Farm : Permaculture in Penetanguishene Teaching Site

**Note:** *Please be concise but comprehensive in your answers below.*

*If you are logged in to a Google Account, this form is auto-saving so you may return to it at your leisure ❓❓.*

Awesome! Got it.

**Design Overview:** Please give a summary of your design. Where is it located? Community impacted? \*

Problems solved? What goals does it achieve?

The design integrates principles of permaculture, regenerative agriculture, and traditional Indigenous knowledge. In the design, created is a vibrant educational hub and community center/ living classroom fostering a deep connection to the land and promoting regenerative agriculture. The implementation of initiatives such as a food forest, mushroom inoculation, Pastured Broilers, and a Labyrinth Sanctuary & Outdoor Classroom highlights the commitment to education, sustainable agriculture, and community engagement I have pulsing through my mind and heart. The site is located in Penetanguishene Ontario, Canada, 2 hours north of Toronto in Cottage Country.

Community engagement includes students from all ages, farmers, local residents, and visitors interested in living more in rhythm with nature and engaging with permaculture, animal and food systems. By integrating regenerative ag + permaculture and providing educational opportunities, the farm addresses the gaps in local food systems, like food security, processing facilities, food access and economic blind spots. There is currently revenue being generated on site enough to have 1 employee, with the implementation of more phases, 2 full time employees are budgeted, along with community gatherings, educational workshops, and more. The goals achieved include fostering unity and respect among diverse groups, deepening the understanding of natural ecosystems, and nurturing a thriving, interconnected environment amongst humans and nature. With the surging prices of groceries, connecting people back to the soil and seed is the main objective - inspiring children and adults alike to get back to the earth. This design "Permaculture in Penetanguishene" also invites other permaculture designers and teachers to host workshops on site, offering the opportunity for more PDC's to be taught in person on the land, in a temperate climate in close proximity to Toronto.

**Earth Care:** How does your design address climate instability, potential pollution concerns, and enhance

your local ecology?

The enhancement of local ecology, economy & ethical practice of agriculture is role modelled by interacting in the natural world in an integrated way - creating closed loop systems on site, seeing all "waste" for opportunities to deepen education and find inspiration.

Rain water harvesting for food forest irrigation & drought mitigation

Rotational grazing for soil health & erosion control

Forestry management through integrated grazing plans and thinning / limbing of the forest to showcase fire resilient landscapes

Food forests with nitrogen fixers, insectaries and bio-accumulators, heirloom and heritage varieties so showcase seed saving

Soil building through no-till gardening, compost and vermi-culture

In the creation of closed loop cycles on the farm, maintaining fertility of the land on the land, by composting the manure from the grazing crew through winter to feed the 1 acre no till market garden, expanding into a food forest, medicinal herb gardens, on-site accommodation & outdoor learning spaces with curated workshop offerings are all ways earth care is addressed in this design.

Fostering a balanced and mutually beneficial relationship between nature, society, and the agricultural industry by creating a living classroom to showcase the above aforementioned, to inspire and empower my community + audience to get involved and put into practise earth care in their lives.

**People Care:** How will your design engage and/or serve local communities? \*

Permaculture in Penetanguishene honours people care through curating inspiring spaces for people of all ages to observe, learn, listen and integrate with the natural world.

Educational Workshops: By offering educational workshops on permaculture, and regenerative agriculture, I can provide valuable knowledge and skills to community members interested in gardening and environmental stewardship. Teaching sites designed for students ranging from children to seniors with access for all bodies potential cross pollination of cross cultural understanding and education fostering a deeper appreciation for Indigenous traditions and knowledge.

Camping sites for overnight observation & deepening experience - accessible for travelling guests and students

Labyrinth & sanctuary for spiritual exploration & observation

Medicine gardens

Food forests to last generations & access to local, nutrient dense produce, eggs, meat, honey + more in the future

Job creation & skill development / worktrade, living wages, volunteer opportunities, educational offerings & community gatherings - The various operations on the farm, such as composting, garden cultivation, and animal husbandry, can provide employment opportunities and skill development for individuals in the community, contributing to local economic growth and empowerment.

**Future Care:** How will your design foster more permaculture projects and on-the-ground action? \*

This design is all about getting the community jazzed about permaculture by becoming a hub for promoting permaculture in motion. By hosting interactive workshops and sharing real life happenings on the farm I can inspire others to roll up their sleeves and get involved. The encouragement really happens when people come to the farm and start engaging with the animals, or the gardens, or the greenhouse. Encouraging community participation through internships and collaborative programs, with youth groups, schools, day camps, homeschoolers & clubs. through the synthesizing of connecting folks wanting to get their proverbial hands dirty, we start expanding out - together. Becoming a site that can host various groups, for an hour or up to a full weekend I hope that the farm becomes a beacon of what is possible when you really dive into permaculture, designing and being apart of nature. Having community gatherings including a harvest party at the end of season and connecting people back together over warm food and full bellies grown and raised on the land is how I envision permaculture to permeate the community at large - when happy, nourished, connected folks gather, big beautiful seeds of inspiration and change take root.

**Details:** Choose three (3) Permaculture Design Principles and share how they can be seen in your design. \*

**Obtain a Yield:** through food forests, medicinal gardens & mushroom cultivation as an extension of an established 1 acre no till market garden + meat & egg production via chickens, compost yields through manure, vermi-bins & garden waste. By the production of tangible and delicious outputs from my systems, I ensure the productivity and sustainability of the farm. These yields also produce revenue, which are mostly reinvested back into the farm to experiment and further play in the realms of permaculture.

**Integrate Rather Than Segregate:** This principle is reflected in my design through the integration of various elements such as the Van Retreat & Camp Site within the polyculture forest, the combination of different animals for rotational grazing, and the interconnected functions of the Labyrinth Sanctuary & Outdoor Classroom, which serves as a space for both workshops and spiritual wellbeing. By integrating these elements, i create a more resilient and efficient system where each component supports and interacts with the others.

**Use and Value Renewable Resources and Services:** Permaculture in Penetanguishene design reflects this through composting and soil blending, which utilize organic waste as a resource, the utilization of rotational grazing, which promotes the natural fertility cycle of the land, and the emphasis on the use of local and renewable materials in the construction and development of various farm elements like composting toilets (wood chips from local arborist, wood recycled from mill) & using felled timber from forest as fence posts for the pastures.

**Budget:** How would you spend the \$5,000 Grand Prize to implement your design in the next year? Please \*

be as detailed as possible.

The grand prize of \$5000 would be used to first purchase bare root trees and shrubs, along with roots & bulbs for the food forest layers, Ground cover, herbaceous plants and annuals would be purchased via seed through heirloom providers such as Annapolis seed co, incredible seed co & fruition seeds. The bare root trees would be ordered from Ontario nurseries like Whiffle tree & Silver Creek nursery. Silage tarp & cover cropping seed of red-clover would be purchased immediately for spring preparations for the food forests. Budget of \$2000 for all seedlings, roots, trees, and seeds, mycelium plug spawn for mushroom logs + equipment, and

soil amendments would be covered. Due to the nature of bare root trees, the costs are significantly lessened as shipping is significantly less challenging.

The next instalment would see to the expansion of perimeter fencing around the pasture. During the winter we will be thinning out areas of the monoculture forest and choosing appropriate lumber to use as fence posts - so the costs for the fence is only for the actual wire fence. Thankfully I have access to post hole digging machinery that I can use at my leisure, so the \$2000 allocated for the fencing will in theory and budget cover the costs of all the pastured spaces. The rotational aspects of the large pasture would be covered by our existing electric fencing, with revenue generated from egg sales & workshops to go towards upgrading our electric fence gear the following year - which was passed down from elder farmers and rather unreliable.

\$500 would be allocated towards workshop development, administration costs, advertising and potentially honorariums for guest speakers to host a 7 series , 2 hour long seasonally adapted intro to permaculture workshop. The costs I see being incurred include handouts, tools, soil and seeds for participants to use and have access too. The structure of the workshops would be on a sliding scale, suitable for all ages, and include a co-facilitator. I would offset future workshops with revenue generated from CSA sales in the market garden, and nursery sales in the spring. I am working towards a diploma in PDC teaching, along with my diploma in Regenerative Land Management through PINA so this all ties together.

The remaining \$500 would go towards the building of composting toilets / kybos in the northern polyculture forest trails. These would be built very shoestring, with as much recycled material as possible. I do have one washroom on site in the airplane hangar, but the septic system is dated, and there's nothing quite like a relief break in the forest.

**Upload your design here:** \*PDF Preferred, images and docs accepted, up to 5 files (10MB limit per file)

\*1 - Kristyn Tinney... 2 - Kristyn Tinney... 3 - Kristyn Tinney... 4 - Kristyn Tinney... 5 - Kristyn Tinney...

**Design Experience:** Do you qualify for the *\$1,000 New Designer Award*? \*

Yes, I took my PDC within the last 3 years, after January 1, 2020

No, I took my PDC before January 1, 2020

Do you agree to the [Rules, Terms and Conditions of the 2023 Permaculture Design Contest](#)? \*

Yes, I will use the award money to implement my design & agree to the terms linked

No

In order to submit your design, you **MUST** be a member of PINA at any level. Are you a current PINA member? [Become a member here.](#) \*

Yes

No

Maybe

Other:

**Feedback:** any comments or suggestions for this submission process?

being able to leave a link for larger designs would be helpful, although It was quite a great exercise in limiting the information shared regarding the design. Fingers and toes crossed! thanks for the opportunity!

**Thank You for Your Entry!**



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North America

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